(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether Government had issued any direction to the State Government in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) In so far as the Central Government Hospitals in Delhi are concerned, no incident of alarming level of pesticides having been detected have come to the notice of the Government.

Emergency Medical Care and Medical Insurance Policy

569. SHRI R. SHUNMUGA SUNDARAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that many private hospitals are refusing to admit patients who require emergency medical care on the ground that the patients are unable to deposit cash in advance, and even medical insurance certificates of nationalised insurance agencies are also disregarded by the hospitals; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take for ensuring proper medical attention to the emergency patients having medical insurance certificates?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) Health being a State subject, it is for the State Government to regulate/monitor the functioning of its hospitals including private hospitals as well as to ensure that they comply with the norms/regulations prescribed by the respective State Governments as well as to take punitive action against Private Hospitals/Doctors in cases of proven unethical and unscrupulous conduct. The aggrieved party can also take recourse to legal remedies under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986, which covers the Private Hospitals/Private Medical Practitioners for any proven act of unethical and unscrupulous nature.

In addition, the Indian Medical Council (Professional conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations, 2002 *inter-alia* provide that in case of emergency,

a physician must treat the patient and that no physician shall arbitrarily refuse treatment of a patient. Any complaints with regard to such professional misconduct can be brought before the Medical Council of India or the concerned State Medical Council, as the case may be, for disciplinary action. If found guilty, the appropriate Medical Council may award such punishment as deemed necessary or may direct the removal altogether or for a specified period from the register of the name of the delinquent Registered Medical Practitioner.

CGHS Dispensary in NOIDA

570. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that NOIDA which consists of more than 107 sectors has got only one CGHS Dispensary;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the patients have to wait for hours to get their turn to get medicines or the medical consultation;

(d) whether there is a proposal to set up more CGHS Dispensaries in NOIDA; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. There is only one sanctioned dispensary at NOIDA.

(c) At the above to ensure dispensary, efforts have been made that beneficiaries do not have to wait for long to get consultation or obtain medicines. Arrangements have been made for distribution of medicines at three counters, two for issue of local purchase medicines separately for serving and pensioner beneficiaries and the third counter for dispensing medicines available in the dispensary stock. Five to six doctors are available in the dispensary during morning shift for providing medical consultation to the beneficiaries.

(d) and (e) Although there is a demand to open another CGHS dispensary at NOIDA, but due to constraints of resources and manpower the dispensary cannot be opened at present.